

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, EEC, NATO

SUBJECT: SITUATION ON EUROPE'S SOUTHERN FLANK

REF: (A) NATO 1813; (B) SECTO 66; (C) NATO 1220;
(D) EC BRUSSELS2911

1. DEPARTMENT IS CONDUCTING POLICY REVIEW OF SITUATION ON EUROPE'S SOUTHERN FLANK. WE ARE REPEATING TO USEC REFTELS A, B, AND C WHICH DISCUSS THAT STUDY.

2. INCLUDED IN USEC'S EXCELLENT ANNUAL POLICY ASSESSMENT (REFTEL D) IS REFERENCE TO DEVELOPMENTS IN MEDITERRANEAN AREA. DEPARTMENT, AS PER SUGGESTION IN REFTEL C, WOULD GREATLY VALUE USEC INPUT FOR SOUTHERN FLANK EXERCISE.

3. ALTHOUGH THE STUDY WILL STRESS SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS, A BALANCED PRESENTATION MUST INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS WHICH AFFECT THE OVERALL POLITICAL STABILITY AND STRATEGIC VIABILITY OF THE SOUTHERN FLANK.

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4. WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN EC TIES -- BOTH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC -- WITH PORTUGAL, SPAIN, GREECE,

TURKEY, AND CYPRUS. USEC MIGHT, FOR EXAMPLE, ELABORATE ON POINTS ON POLITICAL COOPERATION NOTED IN REFTEL D (PARA 28). MISSION MIGHT PROVIDE A COMBINED STATUS-PROJECTION REPORT ON COMMUNITY AFFILIATION WITH THE FIVE SPECIFIED COUNTRIES. USEC'S EVALUATION OF SUCH MATERIAL WOULD HELP DETERMINE THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE EC COULD BRING POLITICAL/ECONOMIC INFLUENCE TO BEAR ON FIVE NATIONS AND SO BUTTRESS GENERAL SENSE OF EUROPEAN IDENTITY AND PRO-WESTERN ORIENTATION OF SOUTHERN FLANK. KISSINGER

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